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THE 1985 CONTROLLED DEER HUNT IN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UNITS 93A AND 93B



Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Hon. Vincent G. Kerrio
Minister

Mary Mogford
Deputy Minister



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THE 1985 CONTROLLED DEER HUNT IN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UNITS 93A AND 93B

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. An early controlled deer hunt for shotgun and muzzle-loaders in Chatham district in Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) 93B was held for the first time from October 7 through October 10, 1985.
2. The traditional November controlled deer hunt for shotgun and muzzle-loaders was held for the fifth consecutive year in Chatham district in WMU 93 from November 4 through November 7, 1985.
3. During the early October hunt 76 permits were issued of which 55 actually hunted.
4. Sixty-eight mandatory reports were received (a compliance to Ontario Regulation 297/82 of 89.5%). Six hunters were disqualified from the 1986 controlled deer hunt.
5. The harvest during the October hunt was 5 deer (4 bucks and 1 doe) which represented a hunter success of 9.1 per cent.
6. During the November controlled deer hunt, a total of 698 permits were issued, 561 for 93A and 137 for 93B. Altogether 586 people actually hunted, 478 in 93A and 108 in 93B.
7. A total of 640 mandatory reports were received (a compliance rate of 86.7%) and an additional eight came in late. Fifty hunters were disqualified from the 1986 controlled deer hunt.
8. Weather conditions were less than favorable during the hunt and resulted in a decrease in hunter effort from 1984. A total of 1,850 hunter days or 11,740 hunter hours of recreation were provided in 1985.
9. Hunters reported sighting 2,610 deer (1.41 per hunter) of which they harvested 162 animals, 124 in 93A and 38 in 93B.
10. The overall success rate was 27.6 per cent which was considerably less than the 36.7 per cent recorded in 1984. Success decreased in 93A to 25.9 per cent from 38.0 per cent in 1984 but increased in 93B to 35.2 per cent from 30.1 per cent in 1984.
11. Brooke, Enniskillen, Euphemia, Sombra and Moore Townships in Lambton County accounted for 69 per cent of the harvest.
12. The doe:fawn ratio in the harvest was 1:2.60, the highest ratio recorded during 1981-1985.
13. The fawn composition in the harvest during 1985 was 40.3 per cent and the female component dropped to 36.8 per cent.
14. The high percentage of unknown-aged animals in the harvest (17.3%) may have affected the age-class distribution calculations, especially for bucks.

15. The mean weights of male fawns, yearlings and adults were 34.7, 57.4 and 76.7 kilograms, respectively. The mean weights of female fawns, yearlings and adults were 30.0, 46.8 and 49.8 kilograms, respectively.
16. In 1985, average antler measurements were the largest during the five years of the controlled hunt.
17. It was concluded that the deer population in WMU 93 was stable with a high residual population. However, the continued high proportion of fawns and females in the harvest should be closely monitored to ensure that an over-harvest situation does not occur in the future.
18. There appeared to be considerable differences in hunting pressure and hunter activity between the two sub-units, but the biological parameters in the deer herds appeared similar.
19. It was also concluded that the early October controlled deer hunt in WMU 93B be discontinued.

1.0 Introduction

The 1985 controlled deer hunt was held from Monday, November 4 through Thursday, November 7. Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) 93 has had an annual controlled hunt since 1981, at which time several portions of southern Ontario had controlled hunts instituted in order to promote full use of the deer as a natural resource. In addition to the 1985 November hunt, an earlier controlled hunt was conducted for WMU 93B from Monday, October 7 through Thursday, October 10. This recommendation was made in the 1984 Chatham District Controlled Deer Hunt Report in an effort to make better utilization of the large deer population in WMU 93B, most of which had been thought to use Rondeau Provincial Park as a yarding area. It had been assumed that these animals might not have been accessible to hunters during the traditional November controlled deer hunt. This premise is currently being researched through a telemetry study involving radio-collared deer in the Park.

Deer hunting provides recreation for farmers, rural landowners and other Ontario residents. This recreational activity also provides increased revenue to the local economy. The biological information collected from the deer kills is valuable to biologists because population data (e.g. age and sex composition, fawn/doe ratios) and data on the physical condition of the deer herd is often difficult to collect by other means. A controlled hunt has the additional benefits of decreasing crop damage by deer and reducing the number of deer/vehicle collisions by regulating the population size.

The divisional boundaries of the two sub-units, 93A and 93B, which were legislated prior to the 1984 deer hunt, remained unchanged for the 1985 season.

This report summarizes the results of the 1985 hunt and makes comparisons of these data with hunt data from the 1981-1984 controlled deer hunts. Biological information collected from the mandatory reports and deer check stations is

used to assess the population stability and the condition of the deer herd in WMU 93.

2.0 Methods

2.1 Permits

2.1.1 Procedure for issuance of landowner/farmer validation tags.

In order to qualify for a landowner/farmer validation tag, a prospective hunter must have owned or rented and lived upon a parcel of land within WMU 93 of at least 20 hectares. If the hunter qualifies through farmer status, then residency is required; however, in this case parcel size is not a factor. In the case of corporate or joint ownership of a minimum of 20 hectares, only one designated representative, who is either an officer of the company or one of the joint owners who possesses a resident's licence to hunt deer, is eligible. Upon submitting an application and signing an affidavit declaring eligibility, a validation sticker was issued (Appendix I). One member of the immediate family of the landowner/farmer who resides on the property was also eligible for a validation sticker. Applications could be returned to either the Chatham or Petrolia offices of the Ministry of Natural Resources before or on any day during the controlled hunt. The only applicants meeting these requirements who did not receive a validation sticker were those who did not submit a mandatory report following the 1984 hunt.

There was no deadline for application by landowner/farmer applicants. Applications received by August 30 were entered into a computer (model Dec Pro-380) at the Chatham district office. The data was then forwarded to the Ministry's main office Wildlife Branch on floppy discs. Applications received after this date were held until October 27, at which time another disc was sent

to Wildlife Branch. Additional applications received after October 27 were forwarded after the November hunt was completed.

Successful landowner/farmer applicants from WMU 93B were allowed to hunt in both the October and November hunts.

2.1.2 Procedure for draw applicants.

All residents of Ontario were eligible to participate in the computerized draw for the November hunt and the local draw for the October hunt. Applications (Appendix I) were available at the district office beginning on August 1. The last day to apply for both hunts was August 30. Hunters were allowed to complete only one application. Any individual who applied for a landowner tag could not apply for the lottery draw. The information on the applications was entered onto a computer disc after August 30 and forwarded to Wildlife Branch. Individuals who did not return a mandatory report following the 1984 hunt were omitted from the draw.

Hunters were asked to specify on their application whether they were applying for the October or November hunt in WMU 93B as their first choice. Successful applicants in the early hunt were not eligible for the November hunt. Unsuccessful applicants were eligible for the November draw only if they indicated a second choice of WMUs.

The October draw took place in the Chatham district office on September 4, 1985. The draw was made by Dick McIlroy of the Rondeau Rod and Gun Club in the presence of ministry personnel. Thirty-one validation stickers were issued under WMU 93C. WMU 93C was used to represent the October hunt in WMU 93B to facilitate data processing between the October and November hunts within the sub-unit. Discussion of the data obtained during the October hunt is made under the heading of October controlled deer hunt - WMU 93B and not WMU 93C.

Applications for the November hunt were selected through the provincial computerized draw. One hundred and thirty-seven validation stickers were issued for WMU 93A and seventy-four validation stickers for WMU 93B. Wildlife Branch notified each successful applicant by mail.

Each validation tag form (issued for both the October and November hunts) contained a peel-off tag (Appendix I) which was required to be affixed to the back of the hunter's deer licence and a peel-off return address label for the Chatham district office which was to be affixed to the mandatory report.

All successful applicants, including the landowner/farmer and the lottery hunters, were provided with a mandatory report form (Appendix I) which had to be returned to guarantee an opportunity in the 1986 controlled hunt. For details of the above procedure, see the flow diagram in Appendix I.

2.2 Procedure for controlled hunt.

The archery season was preceded by the October hunt and was suspended for the duration of the November hunt (November 4 to November 7) for safety reasons and to ensure the mutual quality of each hunting method. Only shotgun and muzzle-loader weapons using a slug, special SSG, SSG or SG shot were to be used. The use of dogs was prohibited. It was made clear to the hunters that trespassing would also be prohibited. They were urged to contact landowners for permission to hunt on private land well in advance of each season's opening. This information was disseminated through separate news releases for each sub-unit and a fact sheet (Appendix II).

A mandatory report form was provided to each hunter along with the validation tag form (Appendix I). Completion and delivery of the report to the Chatham district office by November 22, 1985 was compulsory (Game and Fish Act, Ontario

Regulation 297/82). Those who did not comply were sent a registered letter (Appendix III) stating that they were not eligible for the 1986 hunt.

Data from the mandatory reports were entered on a computer (model DEC Pro-380) at the Chatham district office. Floppy discs containing this information were then sent to Toronto for analysis. A number of statistics were generated for each of the three sub-units (the October deer hunt was recorded as WMU 93C to distinguish from the November hunt in WMU 93B) and for WMU 93 as a whole (excluding the October hunt data). These statistics included the number of permittees who hunted, the number of hunter days, the number of hunter hours, the number of deer seen, the number of deer seen per hunter and per hour, the number of deer harvested, the number of deer harvested per hunter-day, per cent success of lottery draw hunters, landowner/farmer hunters and all hunters, the percentage of hunters who used muzzle-loaders versus shotguns, harvest ratios (male versus female and fawns versus adults), and the location of the kill.

Mobile check stations were operated during the 1985 hunt similar to the 1984 hunt. The hunters were encouraged to call the Chatham district office to arrange for a deer check. The deer check involved the collection of several vital statistics relating to the quality of the deer harvested. These included age, sex and weight for all deer, antler beam diameter, antler length and number of points on the antler for bucks, and, for does, the length of teats and presence or absence of milk.

3.0 Results

3.1 Results of the October controlled deer hunt, WMU 93B.

The controlled hunt application data have been summarized in Table 1. A total of 76 permits were issued, of which 45 were to landowner/farmers and 31

to lottery hunters. Sixty-eight mandatory reports were submitted for analysis resulting in a compliance rate of 89.5 per cent. Eight mandatory reports were outstanding of which two were received late. The six remaining individuals were declared ineligible for the 1986 controlled hunt. There were 55 actual hunters (a participation rate of 81 per cent) as determined from the 68 mandatory reports. Of the 13 who did not hunt, five were lottery hunters and eight were landowner/farmers.

The harvest consisted of five deer (4 bucks and 1 doe). Landowner/farmers accounted for a buck and a doe (aged $1\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$, respectively) while lottery hunters harvested three bucks (aged $1\frac{1}{2}$, $1\frac{1}{2}$ and $7\frac{1}{2}$). Two of the bucks were taken in Howard Township while the other two bucks and the doe were harvested in Orford Township. This represents a 9.1 success rate.

The small sample size does not allow for any data comparison with the November hunt in WMU 93B. Hence, there is no further discussion of data from the October controlled deer hunt in this section.

3.2 Results of the November controlled deer hunt, WMU 93.

3.2.1 Results from the mandatory reports.

The controlled hunt application data for 1981-1985 have been summarized in Table 2a. A total of 487 landowner/farmer permits were issued. There were 211 lottery permits issued resulting in 698 potential hunters for the 1985 November controlled hunt. Six hundred and forty mandatory reports were submitted in time for analysis with 58 outstanding (a compliance rate of 86.7 per cent). Eight reports were received late which resulted in 50 individuals being declared ineligible for the 1986 controlled deer hunt in WMU 93. Of the submitted reports, 54 permittees reported that they did not hunt, leaving a total number of 586 actual hunters (a participation rate of 91.6 per cent).

During the 1985 controlled hunt, 1,850 hunter days and 11,740 hunter hours were reported (Table 2b). An average of 6.3 hours per hunter-day was spent by hunters during the hunt.

Hunters reported sighting a total of 2,610 deer (1.41 deer seen per hunter and 0.22 deer seen per hour, Table 2b). One hundred and sixty-two deer were reported harvested (0.0138 deer harvested per hunter-hour). The success of the landowner/farmer was higher than that of the lottery hunter (29.4% and 26.1%, respectively). The overall success was 27.6 per cent. The majority of hunters used shotguns (99.3%) while only 0.5 per cent used muzzle-loaders. The remainder (0.2%) used both weapon types.

The summary of the controlled hunt application data is shown separately for WMU 93A and 93B in Table 3 for 1984-1985. The major difference between the sub-units is that the landowner/farmer permits in 1985 represented 76 per cent of the total permits issued in WMU 93A as opposed to 46 per cent in WMU 93B. The per cent compliance rates for submitting mandatory reports were slightly higher for WMU 93A than for 93B (92.7% and 87.6%, respectively), whereas the per cent participation rates were similar (91.9% and 90.0%, respectively).

Hunting activity is summarized separately for each sub-unit on a daily and seasonal basis for 1984-1985 (Table 4). Hunters in WMU 93A spent more hours per hunter-day than those in WMU 93B (6.4 and 5.9, respectively), saw more deer per hunter (1.46 and 1.17, respectively), and saw more deer per hunter-hour (0.23 and 0.20, respectively). However, there were less deer harvested per hunter-hour in WMU 93A than in 93B (0.013 and 0.020, respectively) and the success rate was much lower in 93A than 93B (25.9% and 35.2%, respectively).

3.2.2 Distribution of the deer harvest.

The distribution of the deer harvest, as reported both in the mandatory reports and from the check station data, is presented by township in Table 5. Ministry personnel physically checked 133 animals, which accounted for 80.6 per cent of the deer harvested. The distribution of the 1985 deer harvest was similar for both the check station data and the mandatory report information with the exception of Sombra Township. Only 16 deer (12 per cent of the total harvest) were physically checked whereas the mandatory report data indicated that 35 animals (21.2%) were actually harvested in Sombra Township.

The check station data was recorded on a sub-unit basis in Table 6 with totals compared with the associated mandatory report information which is an indication of projected kill. The total huntable forested and unimproved land area in WMU 93A is 391.7 km.² and in 93B it is 28.3 km.² The projected kill of 124 deer in 93A represents a kill ratio of 0.32 deer/km.² In 93B, the kill ratio was 1.34 deer/km.² based on the projected kill of 38 deer.

3.2.3 Results of biological data.

Information dealing with biological data was collected primarily from field check stations. Additional data was provided by the mandatory reports. All information reported in this section will be that collected from the check stations unless otherwise indicated.

3.2.3.1 Sex and age class distribution of harvested deer.

The age and sex ratios are recorded in Table 7 for 1981 to 1985. Fawns comprised 39 per cent (52 animals) of the 1985 deer harvest, yearlings 19 per cent (25) and adults 25 per cent (33). Deer 2½ years and older were combined

to form the adult age class. The mandatory reports indicated that there were only 49 fawns (30.2%) in the harvest whereas adults comprised 69.8 per cent (113 animals). Adults and yearlings were combined in the mandatory report summary (Table 8). The discrepancy in the harvest may be largely due to the inability of some hunters to distinguish fawn does from yearling does.

The percentage of unknown-aged animals (17%) recorded during the 1985 hunt was greater than that recorded for each of the previous controlled hunts, 1981-1984 (Table 7). The majority of the unknowns (22 of 23) were bucks. On the basis of weight, presence/absence of antlers and/or size of antlers, it was possible to determine whether some of these animals were at least of yearling age (that is, not fawns) or at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ years or older. As a result, 15 unknown bucks were determined not to be fawns, three were at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ years of age and four bucks remained unaged. Even with this additional information, adults represented only 58 per cent of the total harvest, still less than the 70 percent figure indicated in the mandatory reports.

The proportions of harvested deer by sex and age are compared from 1981 to 1985 with the five year mean using check station data only (Table 9).

Mean ages by sex and for the total harvest were calculated for each of the years 1981-1985 (Figure 1). The data indicates a steady decline in the mean age of the harvest since 1982.

The age and sex breakdown by sub-unit is shown in Table 10 for check station data obtained during the 1984 and 1985 controlled hunts. Mandatory report information is similarly compared in Table 11. The mandatory reports indicated a slightly lower fawn composition (30.6%) in the deer harvest than did the check station data (38.5%) for WMU 93A. In WMU 93B, however, fawns comprised only 29 per cent of the harvest according to the mandatory reports, whereas the check station data indicated a 41.4 per cent proportion.

3.2.3.2 Sex and age ratios.

Table 12 represents a summary of the age-specific sex ratios for WMU 93 compared over the five years of the controlled hunt. A graphic illustration of this data along with the overall success rate is shown in Figure 2. Adult bucks were harvested at a greater rate than adult does (1.57:1). The yearling buck/yearling doe ratio was 4:1. The fawn sex ratio was much lower at 0.79 bucks/doe. There were 2.60 fawns harvested per doe (including yearling does). Results were similar when compared on a sub-unit basis (Table 13).

3.2.3.3 Weight of harvested deer.

The mean weights of does harvested during the 1981-1985 controlled hunts are presented in Table 14a. Does harvested in 1985 averaged 37.7 kilograms. Female fawns ranged from 15.9 to 43.1 kilograms, with a mean of 30.0 kilograms. Yearling does averaged 46.8 kilograms (ranging from 41 to 59 kilograms) while adult does averaged 49.8 kilograms (ranging from 36.3 to 59 kilograms).

Bucks averaged 56.2 kilograms (Table 14b) with male fawns averaging 34.7 kilograms (ranging from 27.0 to 45.4 kilograms) male yearlings averaging 57.4 kilograms (ranging from 38.6 to 88.0 kilograms) and adult bucks averaging 76.7 kilograms (ranging from 36.3 to 102.0 kilograms).

The mean weights by age and sex and overall for all deer harvested from 1981 to 1985 are illustrated in Figure 3. Straight lines were drawn on a perception of the data points (in other words, "eyeballed").

3.2.3.4 Antler characteristics of harvested deer.

Thirty-five males were examined to determine the development of the antlers (Table 15). The 1985 means for both yearlings and adults were the highest recorded during the five-year period. Yearling and adult bucks averaged beam diameters of 31.8 and 37.6 millimeters, respectively (Table 15a). Mean antler lengths were 47.1 centimeters for yearlings and 100.7 centimeters for adults (Table 15b), while yearlings averaged 6.3 points and adults averaged 8.9 points (Table 15c). A graphical comparison of mean antler length, mean beam diameter and mean number of points is presented in Figure 5.

3.2.3.5 Proportion of does lactating.

Only 11 does were examined for lactation during the 1985 controlled hunt. Of these, five were found to be lactating (Table 16).

3.2.4 Results of the comments from mandatory reports.

Comments by the hunters regarding the October hunt in WMU 93B were written on 39 of the 68 mandatory reports received (a 57.4 per cent response). The majority of the commenting hunters (30 or 76.9 per cent of the respondents) stated that there was too much cover because the season was too early. Five respondents (12.8%) indicated the weather was poor. The remaining four respondents indicated the hunt was good, a longer season was needed, a December hunt would be better than an October hunt and there was too much posted land.

A total of 347 hunters who hunted during November made comments on the mandatory report form (this represents a 54.2 per cent response). Most of the respondents indicated that poor weather affected their hunt (141 or 40.6%).

Sixty-two hunters (17.9%) indicated that their hunt was good and/or they desired a hunt in 1986. The poor, wet weather experienced before and during the 1985 controlled hunt resulted in a large percentage of farmers being unable to remove their crops. These conditions were evident in the responses related to changing the hunt. The majority of responses on this subject related to moving the season to a later date, preferably the last week in November (48 or 13.8%). In addition, 32 hunters (9.2%) indicated that there was too much cover because the corn crops had not been harvested. Other suggestions were: lengthen the season to 5 or 6 days in order to include a Saturday (9.2%); a wish to use rifles or slugs only to reduce wounding (5.5%); and discontinue the October hunt and lengthen the November hunt (1%). Some responses indicated that the hunting pressure was too great and suggested the following recommendations: not have a hunt every year (2%); shorten the season (2.3%); decrease the size of the hunting groups or disallow party hunting (7.2%); harvest bucks only, or exclude fawns from the hunt (3.5%); and ban ATV's (0.6%). Comments with respect to the lottery were: allow only residents of WMU 93 to hunt (0.9%); include farmers in the lottery (0.6%); and allow only local landowners in the hunt (0.6%). Only 2 per cent of the hunters commented on seeing few deer but most of these related the few sightings to the poor weather conditions and available cover. Trespassing problems appeared to be of no major concern as only 1.2 per cent of the hunters commented on this topic. Six hunters (1.8%) indicated that there was too much posted land.

3.2.5 Results of enforcement activities.

Two charges of unlawfully hunting deer (i.e., no validation sticker) were laid during the 1985 controlled hunt in WMU 93A. In addition, two trespass charges were laid, one by the Ontario Provincial Police.

4.0 Discussion

4.1 Recreation

4.1.1 October controlled deer hunt, WMU 93B.

The controlled deer hunt during October in WMU 93B was an experiment to determine the impact of an earlier season on the deer herd around Rondeau Provincial Park. It was hoped that the earlier hunt would help to reduce the deer population within the Park as well as to provide increased recreational opportunities for deer hunters. The results indicate that the hunt was far from successful in attaining these goals. The major problems encountered by hunters concerned the cover afforded by crops still remaining on the fields, resulting in the general consensus that this hunt was conducted too early. The increased cover and reduced number of hunters meant that deer were less visible and, as a consequence, that the harvest was low. The premise that deer in Rondeau Park are accessible to hunters during a controlled hunt remains to be verified. This will be adequately tested once sufficient data on deer movement has been obtained from the telemetry study currently underway on radio-collared deer in Rondeau Park. Since data obtained from the early hunt was insufficient to permit comparisons with the November hunt, it will not be discussed further.

4.1.2 November controlled deer hunt, WMU 93.

The following discussion on the November hunt refers to WMU 93 as a whole. A comparison of the sub-unit data will be dealt with separately.

4.1.2.1 Hunter activity.

Weather conditions during the 1985 controlled deer hunt were less than favourable to hunters. Precipitation in the form of rain was relatively heavy both before and during the hunt. Because poor weather hindered farmers from harvesting their crops prior to the hunt, the deer had more available cover than normal. Many of the hunters commented that both the poor weather (40.6 per cent of the responses) and too much available cover (9.2%) greatly affected their hunt.

The number of permits issued has increased annually since 1981 (Table 2). Lottery permit numbers are controlled but landowner/farmer permits are not and have been increasing at an average rate of 3.2 per cent per year. Hunter participation, however, has decreased from 96.9 per cent in 1982 to 91.6 per cent in 1985. The low participation rate in 1985 is probably a result of the weather conditions. The compliance rate of mandatory report returns has also been decreasing annually. In 1981, 99.6 per cent of the permittees submitted a mandatory report while only 91.7 per cent complied in 1985. This, however, can be misleading as some mandatory reports are submitted after the deadline for computer analysis of the data.

Although hunter participation in the 1985 hunt was similar to the hunt in 1984 with only a slight increase (4%) in the number of permits issued, hunter activity was greatly reduced likely as a result of the poor weather conditions and the presence of unharvested crops. Hunters spent shorter hunter-days in the field and subsequently saw and harvested fewer deer than in 1984.

There was an overall decrease of 24 per cent in the deer harvest from 1984 to 1985, and a lower success rate (27.6% in 1985 from 36.7% in 1984). The success rate was higher in 1985 than 1981 and 1982 when hunter numbers were 22 per cent and 16 per cent less, respectively. As in 1984, landowner/farmer hunters enjoyed a higher success rate than the lottery hunters.

4.1.2.2 Distribution of the deer harvest.

The distribution of the 1985 deer harvest was similar to that in 1984 (Table 5). A review of the check station data between the two years revealed that the greatest difference in the deer harvest distribution occurred in Dawn Township. This was apparent from both the check station data and the mandatory report information. The decrease in the Township kill, as indicated in the check station data, from 28 animals (14.5%) in 1984 to 3 (2.3%) in 1985 may have been a result of a difference in hunting activity rather than a decrease in the number of deer. There is no data to support this but surrounding townships appeared to have undergone little change with respect to the proportion of deer harvested. Although there was little difference between the actual numbers of deer harvested in Orford Township during 1984 and 1985, the check station data indicated that the proportion of deer harvested was greater in 1985 (12.8%) than in 1984 (5.7%)

As noted earlier, there was a discrepancy in the number of deer harvested in Sombra Township when the check station data was compared with the mandatory report information. A possible explanation for this is the uncertainty of some hunters in knowing from which township their deer was harvested.

4.1.2.3 Sex and age.

The proportion of fawns in the harvest has been relatively stable over the five years, fluctuating around 41 per cent (Table 9). This may be rather distressing as, according to Andrews and Calhoun (1963, as cited by Kellar and Hendrick, 1985), overharvesting of deer herds in Illinois can occur when fawns exceed 30 to 35 per cent of the harvest under an any-age-any-sex harvest method.

In addition, the percentage of females in the kill in WMU 93 has averaged over 42 per cent during 1981 to 1985 (range 34.7% in 1982 to 48.2% in 1984) and the fawn/doe ratio has averaged 1.71 (range 1.27 fawns/doe in 1984 to 2.60 fawns/doe in 1985). Euler (1982, as cited by Reid, 1985) states that evidence from Virginia suggests that deer herds there will decline with a 45 per cent proportion of females in the kill, and a fawn/doe ratio of 1.6 or less, both of which have occurred in two of the five years. These data would suggest that the deer herds in WMU 93 may be approaching an overharvest state.

Although the 1985 harvest data indicated a female proportion of 36.8 per cent (Table 9) and a fawn/doe ratio of 2.60 (Table 12), it does not necessarily imply a stable or increasing deer population. Rather, it may reflect the physiological response by the deer herd to a reduced density, resulting from the high harvest in 1984. If the 1985 observed fawn/doe ratio is an indication of high recruitment and not a result of decreased selectivity on the part of the hunters due to the poor weather conditions, then the above interpretation of the data may be legitimate. At this point, the problem then becomes one of determining the status of the deer population in relation to the unit's carrying capacity and whether or not continued high harvests will result in an overharvest situation.

McCullough (1985) states that all harvests with less than maximum sustainable yield have two balance points of residual population (population producing the recruits or that population remaining after hunting and other mortality factors have had their effect). If the deer herd in WMU 93 is at the higher residual population balance point, then, according to McCullough, a high kill creates increased recruitment, which tends to bring that population back to its original balance point (Figure 5). A reduced kill would show a lowered recruitment rate as the herd compensates for an overshoot of the balance point. Conversely,

if the deer herd is at the lower residual balance point, both high and low harvests would result in high recruitment. In summary, continued high harvests at the upper level would decrease the deer herd to the lower level, whereas continued high harvests at the lower level would result in serious stock depletion, unless an off-setting harvest the following year is instituted (by reducing the number of permits issued). The fawn/doe ratios seem to imply that the deer herd in WMU 93 is at the upper level as recruitment rates were lower until 1984 at which time a heavy kill occurred. This would produce the higher recruitment rate observed in 1985. A lower fawn/doe ratio in the 1986 controlled hunt would substantiate this assessment.

4.1.2.4 Mean weights and antler measurements.

Lintack (1985) stated that, in Huronia, stable or increasing mean antler characteristics and stable or increasing mean weights were assumed to be indicators of good herd condition. Data from WMU 93 indicate a trend towards heavier buck fawns and yearlings of both sexes (Figure 3). Female fawns averaged 30.0 kilograms in 1985, up slightly from 29.6 kilograms recorded in 1984 (Table 14a). The mean weight of buck fawns increased from 33.8 kilograms in 1984 to 34.7 kilograms in 1985 (Table 14b). Doe and buck yearlings averaged 46.8 kilograms and 57.4 kilograms, respectively. These were the highest recorded mean weights for yearlings during the five-year period. Adult deer mean weights, on the other hand, indicate a trend towards decreasing mean weight. Buck adult mean weight was up to 76.7 kilograms in 1985 from 71.6 kilograms in 1984 but lower than 1981 to 1983. Doe adults decreased to 49.8 kilograms from 50.5 kilograms in 1984. This was the lowest recorded mean weight for doe adults during 1981 to 1985. It has been suggested that the heavier fawns and yearlings

could be a result of the mild winters during the last couple of years, whereas the adults would have been born after more severe winters and, hence, would be smaller in size (O. Williams, pers. comm.).

Although the mean weights for all deer, except adult females, were higher than the 1984 figures, they are still considerably lower than mean weights for deer from other areas of Ontario as indicated in a Co-operative Deer Study Progress Report (Hamr, 1986). Mean body weights of fawns varied from 38.4 kilograms in Loring to 46.1 kilograms in Wingham, considerably higher than the 32.1 kilograms recorded during 1985 in WMU 93. Only Base Borden yearling bucks appear to be smaller on average (53.5 kg) than yearling bucks in WMU 93 (57.4 kg, 1985), however, the sample size from Base Borden was only eight animals. The mean weights in WMU 93 are comparable to the recorded mean weights of deer harvested in WMU 90 (Reid, 1985). The recorded mean weights in WMU 93 are slightly lower than could be expected for this area (O. Williams, pers. comm.).

Buck deer harvested in WMU 93 in 1985 had larger antlers and more points on average than in previous years (Table 15). The general trend in antler measurements parallels the trend in mean weight measurements for both adult and yearling bucks (Figures 4 and 3, respectively).

McCullough (1985) discovered that the heaviest bucks in the George Reserve, Michigan, deer herd occurred at low densities. He also found that, at low densities, fawns commonly exceeded 45 kilograms and yearling bucks displayed 8-point antlers. These characteristics were observed when the population was at a young age. The mean age of deer harvested in WMU 93 during 1985 was 1.8 years which was the lowest recorded during the five years (Figure 1). However, only a few deer exhibited the qualities mentioned above which may suggest that the deer herd in WMU 93 may be approaching a low density situation.

Decisions related to residual population status were based on the available data and are not conclusive. Of major concern was the number of unknown-aged animals, especially bucks, recorded in the 1985 harvest. Although most of these animals were determined not to be fawns, they could not be separated into yearling or adult categories. If this had been possible, more confidence could be placed with respect to the conclusions on the trends of mean age, mean antler measurements and mean body weight.

4.1.2.5 Lactation.

Under low density conditions, it would be expected that most, if not all, adult does and a large percentage of yearling does would reproduce. The present data on lactation does not support a low or high density hypothesis, however, sample sizes are insufficient to accurately conclude this.

4.1.3 WMU 93A versus WMU 93B.

When comparing the data on a sub-unit basis, the results are strikingly different. Although it contains more area than 93B, WMU 93A still sustains a greater hunting pressure. This sub-unit exhibited similar decreases as observed for the unit as a whole with respect to hunter participation and the hunter activity (Table 4). Sub-unit 93B, on the other hand, had 40 per cent more landowner/farmer permittees in 1985 than in 1984. Although hunter-days were shorter than in 1984, almost as many deer were observed, and more deer were seen per hunter-day and hunter-hour (5% and 10%, respectively).

Sub-unit 93A followed a similar pattern to the unit as a whole with 33 per cent fewer animals harvested and a 12 per cent decrease in hunter success. On the other hand, sub-unit 93B experienced a 26 per cent increase in the 1985 harvest and a slight increase in hunter success of five per cent.

The lower 1985 success rate in sub-unit 93A may be due to the poor weather, a result of the heavy harvest in 1984, or a combination of both. Hunter numbers in 1985 remained similar to those in 1984, but hunter effort decreased (Table 4), indicating that hunters were reluctant to spend as much effort in the field as they might have if weather conditions had been more favourable. In addition, fewer deer were observed per hunter-day and hunter-hour and the harvest rate was lower in 1985. This could indicate that deer density was reduced. There are limitations, however, in using these changes in hunter effort as indications of deer population trends when such biases as weather during the hunt, crop harvest, deer behavior (e.g. rut) and hunter densities and dispersion are present (Lintack, 1985; Reid, 1985). As hunter numbers are expected to be similar in 1986 (because lottery permit numbers will remain unchanged), the harvest data in 1986 may be able to provide an insight as to the possible reason for the harvest decline in 1985.

Hunter numbers in sub-unit 93B increased slightly over 1984 but hunter effort was reduced (Table 4). Yet more deer were observed per hunter-day and hunter-hour and the harvest rate increased greatly in 1985. This may indicate that there were more deer in 1985 than in 1984. It is not known to what extent, if any, the Rondeau Park deer herd contributes to the controlled hunt in 93B. The current telemetry study with radio-collared deer from Rondeau Park may provide an insight as to whether the deer from the Park are available to hunters outside the Park's boundary. Information to date (based on spring and summer observations) indicates that the deer do not move a great distance, if any at all, from the Park (M. Reed, pers. comm.). This may not be the case in the autumn when fawns are larger, bucks are more vigorous (due to the rut), crops are ripe and fat reserves need to be built up before the onset of winter. In 1985, because farmers were unable to harvest their crops prior to the controlled hunt, the Rondeau deer may have been more available to hunters. McCullough's

(1985) concept of functional refugia may have some application to managing the deer herd in 93B, depending on whether or not the Rondeau deer herd is available to hunters outside the Park. It is possible that during normal weather (and, consequently, normal crop harvest) patterns, Rondeau deer are less available to hunters and instead remain inside the Park, - which becomes, in a sense, their "refuge". However, under certain circumstances such as during 1985, crops were available later than normal and this factor may have "held" deer on the mainland, thereby making them more available during the hunt. It is hoped that the current telemetry study will provide a better understanding of this possible behavioral aspect of Rondeau deer.

The age and sex breakdown was similar for WMU 93A and 93B (Table 10). The mandatory reports indicated a slightly lower fawn composition (30.6%) in the deer harvest than did the check station data (38.5%) for sub-unit 93A (Table 11). In 93B, however, fawns comprised only 29 per cent of the harvest according to the mandatory reports, whereas the check stations recorded a 41.4 per cent figure.

The majority of the data for WMU 93 is supplied by information obtained from the hunt in sub-unit 93A, so it would be expected that trends noticed in 93A would be similar to those observed in the unit as a whole. Although major differences were apparent between the two sub-units, sample sizes from sub-unit 93B may be too small to conclude that these differences are real.

5.0 Conclusions

The early October controlled hunt in WMU 93B was not as successful as was expected. It does not appear that future hunts during this period would provide increased benefits to hunters, an increased data base for wildlife managers,

or have any major effect on the deer herd in Rondeau Provincial Park. Therefore, it is recommended that the October hunt be discontinued.

Although there is only a five year period of record for harvest data and pre-hunt population information is lacking, indications are that the deer herd in WMU 93 may be stabilizing at the upper residual population balance point. The high proportion of fawns and adult females in the harvest is of some concern but other data such as fawn/doe ratios, lactation rates, stable or increasing mean weights and antler characteristics, and sex/age distribution tend to provide some support that the deer herd is not decreasing. It is hoped that harvest data from the 1986 hunt will support this conclusion.

Major differences with respect to hunter activity and hunter success are apparent between the sub-units although harvest statistics are similar. The increased harvest and success rate in WMU 93B would appear to indicate an increase in the deer herd. The increased cover associated with the presence of unharvested crops may have attracted deer from Rondeau Park and made them more available to hunters during the November controlled hunt. Data from the current telemetry study on radio-collared deer in Rondeau Park could help to support this conclusion. The harvest sample size may be too small to accurately predict how the hunt is affecting the deer herd in WMU 93B.

It is recommended that, in order to better monitor the effects of hunting pressure on the deer herd in WMU 93, more effort be expended to obtain all pertinent data from as many harvested animals as possible. Areas of priority consideration are with respect to lactation data on yearling and adult does and the reduction of unknown-aged animals.

As there are a number of independent variables that affect the overall outcome of the hunt (such as weather, crop coverage, etc.), it is recommended that the same number of validation tags be issued for WMUs 93A and 93B for the 1986 hunt.

This will attempt to provide for a constancy of hunting effort on the deer herd which will enable ministry staff to better interpret responses of the deer population to changes in their environment and to the current hunting mortality levels.

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Figure 1. Mean age by sex and of total kill in the controlled deer hunt, WMU 93, 1981-1985

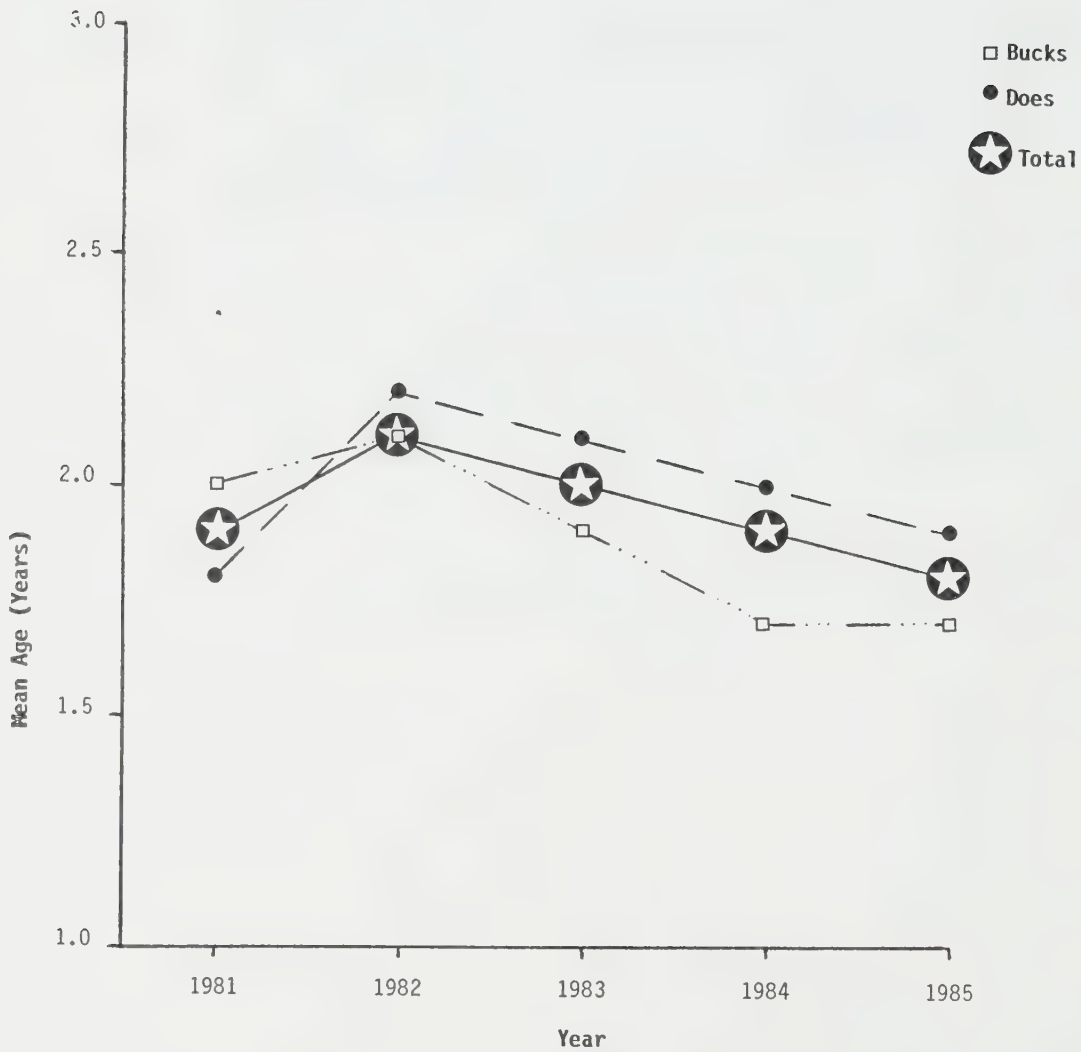


Figure 2. Age specific sex ratios and overall success rate, WMU 93, 1981-1985, based on check station data.

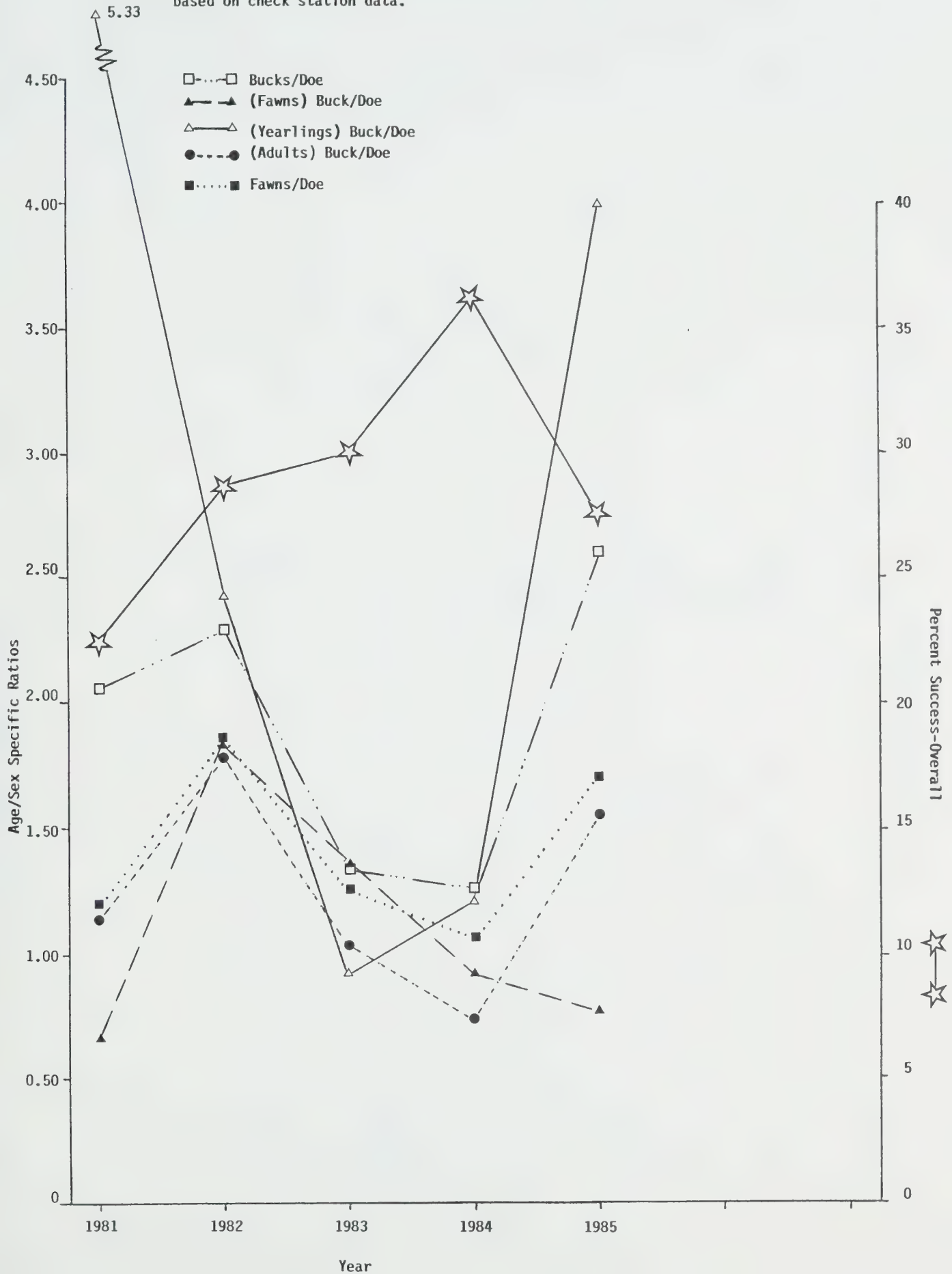


Figure 3. Mean weights by age and sex and total sex in the controlled deer hunt, WMU 93, 1981-1985.

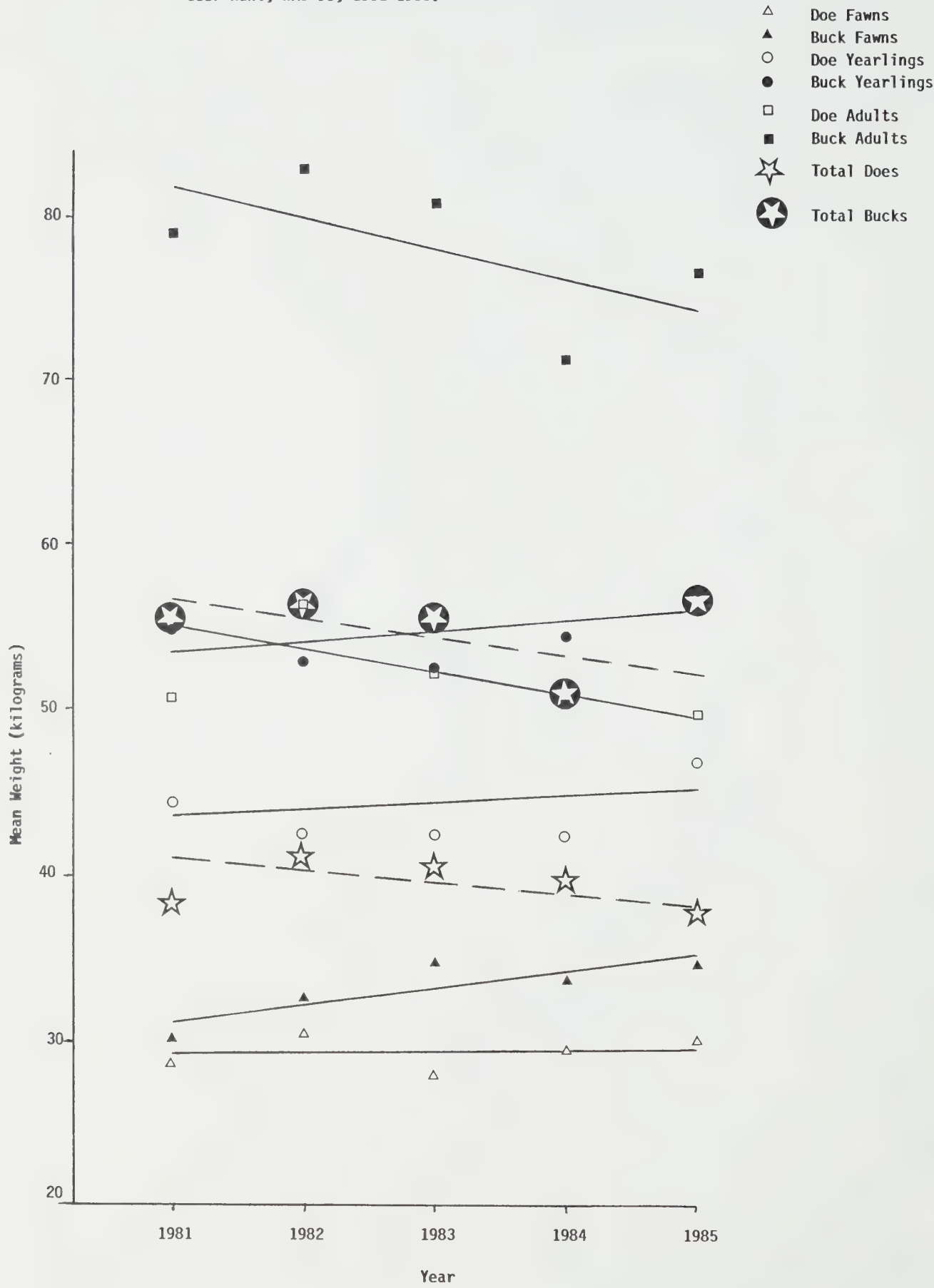


Figure 4. Mean antler measurements of buck deer harvested in WMU 93, 1981-1985.

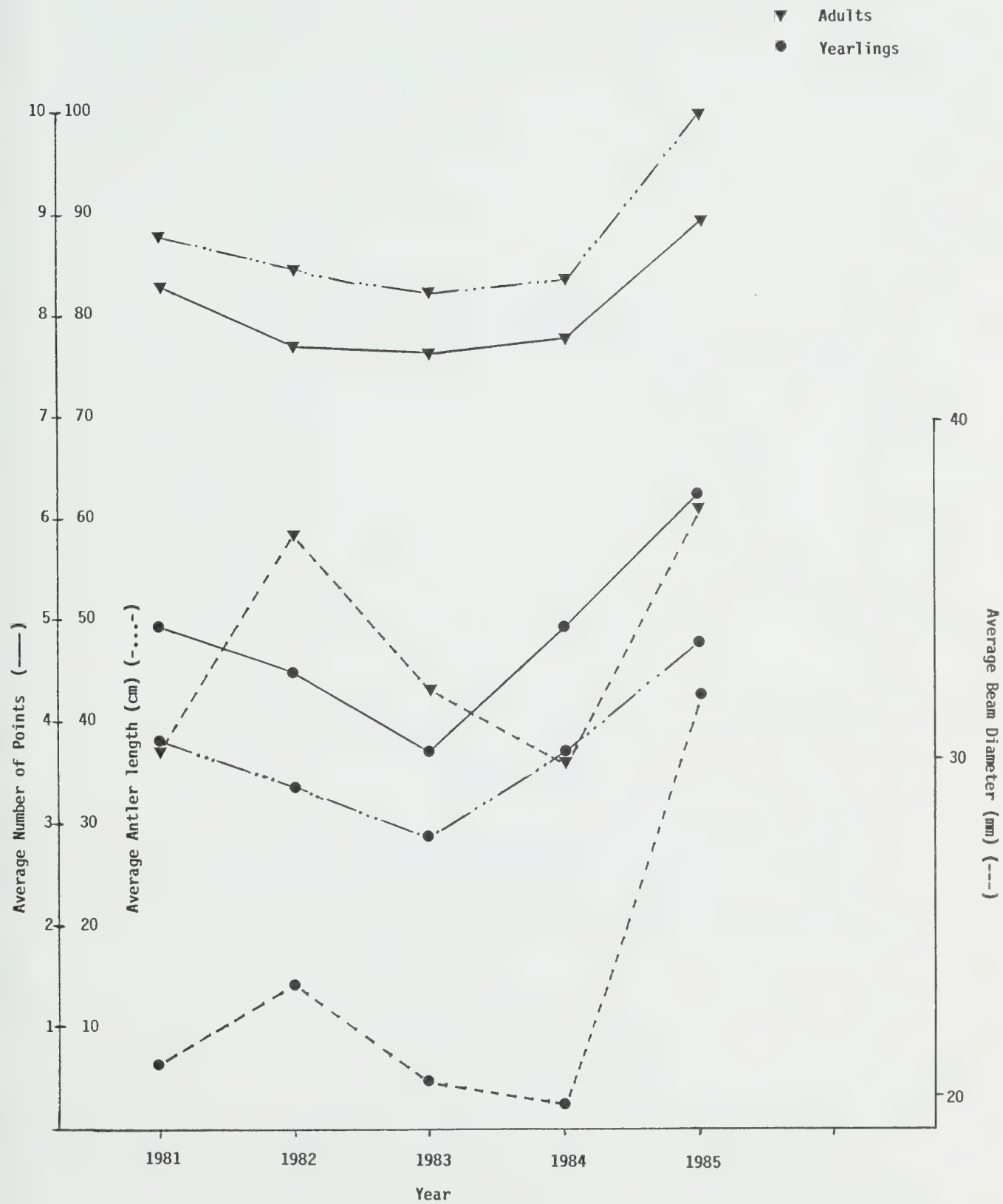
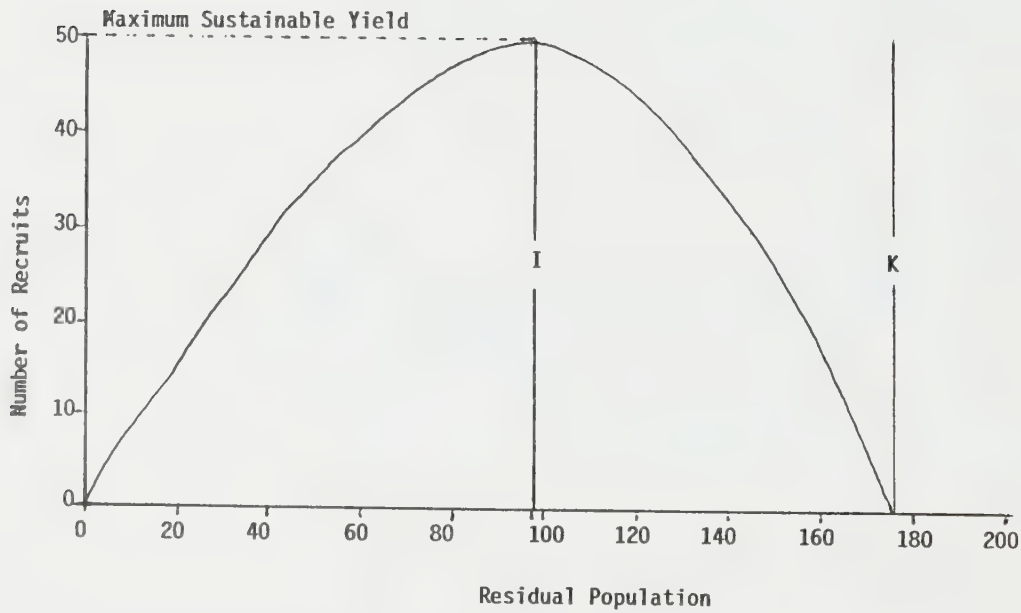


Figure 5. Productivity Curve *



* Taken from McCullough (1985).

K = maximum residual population (density) at which productivity (number of recruits) declines to zero - this is carrying capacity of an area, and represents the maximum number of deer the area will support on a sustained basis without destruction of habitat.

I = residual population yielding maximum sustainable yield.

Table 1. Summary of the controlled deer hunt permits in WMU 93B for October, 1985.

# of lottery permits available	31
# of lottery applicants	181
# of successful lottery applicants	31
# of landowner/farmer permits	45
Total # of permits issued	76
# of mandatory permits received	68
# of mandatory reports outstanding	8
# of applicants who did not hunt (as reported in mandatory reports)	13
# of actual hunters	55
Percent participation rate	80.9

Table 2a. Summary of the controlled deer hunt permits in WMU 93, 1981-1985.

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
# of lottery permits available	100	100	106	209	209
# of lottery applicants	975	648	520	486	582
# of successful lottery applicants	100	100	106	209	211
# of landowner/farmer permits	428	441	457	462	487
Total # of permits issued	528	541	563	671	698
# of mandatory reports received*	526	509	526	617	640
# of mandatory reports outstanding	2	32	37	54	58
# of applicants who did not hunt (as reported in mandatory reports)	68	16	23	37	54
# of actual hunters*	458	493	503	580	586
% participation rate**	87.1	96.9	95.6	94.0	91.6
* from mandatory report printout					
** # of actual hunters divided by # of mandatory reports received					

Table 2b. Summary of hunting activity, controlled deer hunt, WMU 93, 1981-1985, from mandatory report data.

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
# of hunter days	1,311	1,407	1,602	2,109	1,850
# of hunter hours	7,123	8,880	10,252	14,178	11,740
# of hours/hunter day	5.4	6.3	6.4	6.7	6.3
# of deer seen	1,453	1,907	2,837	3,827	2,610
# of deer seen/hunter day	1.11	1.36	1.77	1.82	1.41
# of deer seen/hunter hour	0.20	0.21	0.28	0.27	0.22
# of deer harvested	100	131	152	213	162
# of deer harvested/hunter hour	.0140	.0147	.0148	.0150	.0138
% success-landowner/farmer	-	-	30.1	38.9	29.4
% success-lottery hunter	-	-	30.7	31.4	26.1
% success-overall	22.4	28.2	30.2	36.7	27.6
Firearms-shotgun	96.3	97.0	98.2	97.4	99.3
-muzzle-loader	3.7	3.0	1.8	2.1	0.5

Table 3. Summary of the controlled deer hunt permits in WMU's 93A and 93B, 1984 and 1985.

	1984		1985	
	93A	93B	93A	93B
# of lottery permits available	136	73	136	73
# of lottery applicants	359	127	421	161
# of successful lottery applicants	136	73	137	74
# of landowner/farmer permits	424	38	424	63
Total # of permits issued	560	111	561	137
# of mandatory permits received*	519	98	520	120
# of mandatory reports outstanding	41	13	41	17
# of applicants who did not hunt (as reported in mandatory reports)	35	2	42	12
# of actual hunters*	484	96	478	108
Percent participation rate**	93.3	98.0	91.9	90.0

* from the mandatory report printout

** # of actual hunters divided by # of mandatory reports received

Table 4. Summary of hunting activity, 1984 and 1985, controlled deer hunt in WMU's 93A and 93B from mandatory report data.

	WMU 93A								WMU 93B										
	1984				1985				1984				1985						
	Daily Results November				Season Results	Daily Results November				Season Results	Daily Results November				Season Results				
	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7			
# hunter days	486	455	428	393	385	383	402	358	1,528	97	92	83	75	347	90	83	75	74	322
# hunter hours	3,523	3,163	2,888	2,456	2,510	2,515	2,643	2,166	9,834	625	565	469	489	2,148	527	498	450	431	1,906
# hours/hunter day	7.3	7.0	6.8	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.1	6.4	6.4	6.1	5.7	6.5	6.2	5.9	6.0	6.0	5.8	5.9
# deer seen	960	844	944	695	517	641	568	508	2,234	120	86	113	65	384	122	89	86	79	376
# deer seen/hunter day	1.98	1.85	2.21	1.77	1.34	1.67	1.41	1.42	1.46	1.23	0.94	1.37	0.86	1.11	1.36	1.07	1.15	1.07	1.17
# deer seen/hunter hour	0.27	0.27	0.33	0.28	0.21	0.25	0.21	0.23	0.23	0.19	0.15	0.24	0.13	0.18	0.23	0.18	0.19	0.18	0.20
# deer harvested	55	50	42	38	28	45	30	21	124	11	5	7	5	28	15	7	6	10	38
# deer harvested/hunter hour					0.015				0.013					0.013					0.020
% success-landowner/farmer									28.3					36.1					38.0
% success-lottery hunter									17.0					27.8					33.0
% success-overall									25.9					30.1					35.2
firearms - shotgun									99.2					100.0					100.0
- muzzle-loader									0.6					0.0					0.0

Table 5. Distribution of the deer harvest in WMU 93 based on reported data (mandatory reports) and known data (check stations), 1981-1985
(Lambton and Kent Counties)

Mandatory Report Data										Check Station Data										
1981		1982		1983		1984		1985		1981		1982		1983		1984		1985		
#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Lambton County																				
Bosanquet	6	6.0	7	5.4	7	4.6	9	4.2	6	3.6	6	7.1	6	5.1	7	5.8	9	4.7	6	4.5
Brooke	4	4.0	17	13.1	16	10.6	27	12.7	23	13.9	5	6.0	19	16.1	14	11.7	28	14.5	23	17.3
Dawn	19	19.0	20	15.4	28	18.5	33	15.5	4	2.4	21	25.0	20	17.0	25	20.8	28	14.5	3	2.3
Enniskillen	33	33.0	25	19.2	31	20.5	27	12.7	21	12.7	26	31.0	23	19.5	27	22.5	25	13.0	22	16.5
Euphemia	8	8.0	14	10.8	6	4.0	16	7.5	18	10.9	6	7.1	11	9.3	8	6.7	12	6.2	16	12.0
Moore	8	8.0	13	10.0	18	11.9	31	14.6	16	9.7	5	6.0	11	9.3	14	11.7	29	15.0	15	11.3
Plympton	-	-	1	0.8	4	2.7	1	0.5	-	-	-	-	1	0.9	1	0.8	-	-	-	-
Sarnia	1	1.0	-	-	1	0.7	-	-	-	-	1	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sombra	4	4.0	15	11.5	20	13.2	30	14.1	35	21.2	1	1.2	11	9.3	7	5.8	29	15.0	16	12.0
Warwick	2	2.0	-	-	5	3.3	4	1.9	4	2.4	2	2.4	-	-	5	4.2	3	1.6	3	2.3

Table 5 (Cont'd). Distribution of the deer harvest in WMU 93 based on reported data (mandatory reports) and known data (check stations), 1981-1985 (Lambton and Kent Counties)

Kent County	Mandatory Report Data						Check Station Data					
	1981		1982		1983		1984		1985		1981	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Camden	-	-	1	0.8	-	-	4	1.9	-	-	-	-
Howard	2	2.0	4	3.1	4	2.7	10	4.7	18	10.9	3	3.6
Orford	10	10.0	10	7.7	8	5.3	14	6.6	15	9.1	8	9.5
Harwich			closed season				5	2.3	4	2.4	closed season	
Zone	-	-	3	2.3	3	2.0	1	0.5	-	-	2	1.7
Unknown	3	3.0	-	-	-	-	1	0.5	1	0.6	-	-
Total	100	100.0	130	100.1	151	100.0	213	100.2	*165	99.8	84	100.1

* Total here differs from total used elsewhere because 3 mandatory reports were completed improperly and could not be used in the data analysis.

Table 6. Distribution of the 1985 controlled deer hunt harvest by township in WMU 93A and 93B, based on check station data.

	<u>Bucks</u>	<u>Does</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>
<u>WMU 93A</u>				
Bosanquet	2	4	6	5.8
Brooke	17	6	23	22.1
Dawn	2	1	3	2.9
Enniskillen	10	12	22	21.2
Euphemia	9	7	16	15.4
Moore	12	3	15	14.4
Sombra	13	3	16	15.4
Warwick	1	2	3	2.9
Total	<u>66</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>104</u>	<u>100.1</u>
Total from mandatory reports	70	54	124	
	<u>Bucks</u>	<u>Does</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>
<u>WMU 93B</u>				
Harwich	1	-	1	3.4
Howard	7	4	11	37.9
Orford	10	7	17	58.6
Total	<u>18</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>99.9</u>
Total from mandatory reports	26	12	38	

Table 7. Summary of deer age and sex ratios, WMU 93, 1981-1985, based on check station data.

Age	Does					Bucks					Total					Percentage				
	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Fawn	21	17	19	36	29	14	31	26	33	23	35	48	45	71*	52	42	41	37	36	39
Yearling	3	7	15	22	5	16	17	14	27	20	19	24	29	49	25	23	20	24	25	19
2½	4	2	3	12	5	3	4	3	13	8	7	6	5	25	13	8	5	5	13	10
3½	4	1	5	6	2	9	6	8	2	6	13	7	13	8	8	16	6	11	4	6
4½	5	5	6	7	1	2	9	3	6	3	7	14	9	13	4	8	12	7	7	3
5½	-	4	2	6	-	1	2	4	3	1	1	6	6	9	1	1	5	5	5	1
6½	1	2	2	3	2	1	3	1	1	1	2	5	3	4	3	2	4	2	2	2
7½+	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	3

38

Total Adults (2½+)	14	14	18	34	14	16	25	19	25	19	30	39	37	59	33	36	33	31	31	25
Unknowns	-	3	1	-	1**	-	4	8	14	22***	-	7	9	14	23	-	6	7	8	17

Total	38	41	53	92	49	46	77	67	99	84	84	118	120	193	133
Percentage	45	35	44	48	37	55	65	56	61	63					

* includes two fawns of unknown sex
** not a fawn
*** unknown age deer - 4 unknown age animals
15 not fawns
3 unknown age adults (2½+)

Table 8. Harvest ratios based on mandatory report information WMU 93, 1981-1985.

	1981		1982		1983		1984		1985	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
male fawns	20	20.0	26	20.0	28	18.4	36	16.9	23	14.2
female fawns	14	14.0	16	12.3	22	14.5	31	14.8	26	16.0
sub total	34	34.0	42	32.3	50	32.9	67	31.4	49	30.2
male adults	46	46.0	62	47.7	61	40.1	80	37.6	73	45.1
female adults	20	20.0	26	20.0	41	27.0	66	31.0	40	24.7
sub total	66	66.0	88	67.7	102	67.1	146	68.6	113	69.8
Total	100	100	130	100	152	100	213	100	162	100

Table 9. Summary of age and sex proportions in the harvest, WMU 93, 1981-1985, based on check station data.

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	5 Year * Mean
% fawn males	16.7	27.2	23.2	18.6	17.8	20.6
% fawn females	25.0	14.8	16.0	18.8	21.8	18.9
% total fawns	41.7	43.2	40.5	39.7	40.3	40.9
% yearling males	19.0	14.9	12.5	15.1	17.5	15.6
% yearling females	3.6	6.1	12.6	11.4	3.8	8.1
% total yearlings	22.6	21.6	26.1	27.4	22.1	24.4
% adult males (2½+)	19.0	21.9	17.0	14.0	19.3	17.7
% adult females (2½+)	16.7	12.2	15.1	17.6	10.6	14.6
% total adults (2½+)	35.7	35.1	33.3	33.0	31.9	33.6
% adult males (incl. ylg.)	38.1	36.8	29.5	29.1	36.8	33.3
% adult females (incl. ylg.)	20.2	18.3	27.7	29.0	14.4	22.7
% total adults (incl. ylg.)	58.3	56.8	59.5	60.3	54.0	58.0
% total males	54.8	65.3	55.8	51.8	63.2	57.6
% total females	45.2	34.7	44.2	48.2	36.8	42.4
% unknown ages	-	5.9	7.5	7.3	17.3	8.2

NOTE: where males are involved, unknown age males have been excluded unless they were known not to be fawns or yearlings, similar for females - hence the reason for the total percentages not being additive in each age group.

* 5 year mean based on total numbers over the 5 year period rather than an average of the percentages.

Table 10. Summary of deer age and sex ratios, WMU's 93A and 93B, 1984 and 1985, based on check station data.

	93A				93B			
	1984		1985		1984		1985	
	Does	Bucks	Total	%	Does	Bucks	Total	%
Fawns	31	27	58	34.7	23	17	40	38.5
Yearlings	19	25	44	26.3	4	16	20	19.2
2½	9	12	21	12.6	4	7	11	10.6
3½	6	2	8	4.8	2	5	7	6.7
4½	7	6	13	7.8	-	2	2	1.9
5½	6	3	9	5.4	-	-	-	-
6½	2	1	3	1.8	1	1	2	1.9
7½+	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	2.9
unknowns	-	11	11	6.6	1	18**	19	18.3
Total	80	87	167	100	38	66	104	100
%	47.9	52.1			36.5	63.5		50.0
								37.9
								62.1

* not a fawn
** consists of 4 unknown age animals, 11 not fawns, 3 unknown age adults (2½+)
*** unknown age adults (not fawns)

Table 11. Harvest ratios based on mandatory report information, WMJ's 93A and 93B, 1984 and 1985.

		93A				93B			
		1984		1985		1984		1985	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Fawn	Male	31	16.8	17	13.7	5	17.9	6	15.8
	Female	28	15.1	21	16.9	3	10.7	5	13.2
	Subtotal	59	31.9	38	30.6	8	28.6	11	29.0
Adult	Male	70	37.8	53	42.7	10	35.7	20	52.6
	Female	56	30.3	33	26.6	10	35.7	7	18.4
	Subtotal	126	68.1	86	69.3	20	71.4	27	71.0
Total		185	100.0	124	99.9	28	100.0	38	100.0

Table 12. Summary of age specific sex ratios, WMU 93, 1981-1985, based on check station data.

Ratio	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Doe:Buck	1:1.21 (38:46)	1:1.87 (41:77)	1:1.26 (53:67)	1:1.08 (92:99)	1:1.71 (49:84)
Fawn Doe:Fawn Buck	1:0.66 (21:14)	1:1.82 (17:31)	1:1.37 (19:26)	1:0.92 (36:33)	1:0.79 (29:23)
Yearling Doe:Yearling Buck	1:5.33 (3:16)	1:2.43 (7:17)	1:0.93 (15:14)	1:1.23 (22:27)	1:4.00 (5:20)
Adult Doe:Adult Buck*	1:1.14 (14:16)	1:1.79 (14:25)	1:1.06 (18:19)	1:0.74 (34:25)	1:1.57 (14:22)
Doe:Fawn**	1:2.06 (17:35)	1:2.29 (21:48)	1:1.36 (33:45)	1:1.27 (56:71)	1:2.60 (20:52)

* adults excluding yearlings
** does including yearling does

Table 13. Summary of age specific sex ratios, WMU's 93A and 93B, 1984 and 1985, based on check station data.

	93A		93B	
	1984	1985	1984	1985
doe:buck	1:1.09 (80:87)	1:1.74 (38:66)	1:1. (12:12)	1:1.64 (11:18)
fawn doe:fawn buck	1:0.87 (31:27)	1:0.74 (23:17)	1:1.2 (5:6)	1:1 (6:6)
yearling doe:yearling buck	1:1.32 (19:25)	1:4.00 (4:16)	1:0.67 (3:2)	1:4.00 (1:4)
adult doe:adult buck*	1:0.80 (30:24)	1:1.80 (10:18)	1:0.25 (4:1)	1:1 (4:4)
doe:fawn**	1:1.18 (49:58)	1:2.67 (15:40)	1:1.57 (7:11)	1:2.40 (5:12)

* adults - excluding yearlings
 ** does - includes yearling does

Table 14a. Summary of average weight (kg.) by age class for does, WMU 93, 1981-1985.

	DOES									
	1981		1982		1983		1984		1985	
	Mean Weight	Sample Size	Mean Weight	Sample Size	Mean Weight	Sample Size	Mean Weight	Sample Size	Mean Weight	Sample Size
fawn	28.6	21	30.4	17	27.9	19	29.6	33	30.0	28
weight range	n/a		n/a		18-36 kg.		24-36 kg.		15.9-43.1 kg.	
yearling	44.3	3	42.6	7	42.5	20	42.5	20	46.8	5
weight range	n/a		n/a		32-52 kg.		25-52 kg.		41-59 kg.	
adult (2½+)	50.7	14	56.5	14	52.3	18	50.5	26	49.8	14
weight range	n/a		n/a		38-61 kg.		43-57 kg.		36.3-59 kg.	
mean weight	38.2	38	41.3	38	40.5	52	39.7	79	37.7	47

n/a - not available

Table 14b. Summary of average weight (kg.) by age class for bucks, WMU 93, 1981-1985.

	Bucks									
	1981		1982		1983		1984		1985	
	Mean Weight	Sample Size	Mean Weight	Sample Size	Mean Weight	Sample Size	Mean Weight	Sample Size	Mean Weight	Sample Size
fawn	31.2	14	32.5	31	34.9	25	33.8	31	34.7	22
weight range	n/a		n/a		23-43 kg.		25-57 kg.		27-45.4 kg.	
yearling	54.9	16	53.0	17	52.6	14	54.5	27	57.4	19
weight range	n/a		n/a		36-68 kg.		34-68 kg.		38.6-88 kg.	
adult (2½+)	78.9	16	82.7	25	80.6	19	71.6	25	76.7	22
weight range	n/a		n/a		50-102 kg.		52-99 kg.		36.3-102 kg.	
mean weight	56.1	46	56.5	73	55.8	58	51.9	83	56.2	63

n/a - not available

Table 15. Summary of average beam diameter, antler length and number of points by age class, WMU 93, 1981-1985.

Table 15a. Average beam diameter (mm).

Age	1981		1982		1983		1984		1985	
	Diameter (mm)	Sample Size	Diameter (mm)	Sample Size	Diameter (mm)	Sample Size	Diameter (mm)	Sample Size	Diameter (mm)	Sample Size
yearling	20.9	16	23.4	17	20.5	11	19.8	25	31.8	17
adults (2½+)	30.2	16	36.6	25	32.0	19	29.8	34	37.6	18

Table 15b. Average antler length (cm).

Age	1981		1982		1983		1984		1985	
	Length (cm)	Sample Size	Length (cm)	Sample Size	Length (cm)	Sample Size	Length (cm)	Sample Size	Length (cm)	Sample Size
yearling	38.7	16	33.6	17	27.9	11	37.5	21	47.1	17
adults (2½+)	87.9	16	85.0	25	82.8	19	83.5	33	100.7	18

Table 15c. Average number of points.

Age	1981		1982		1983		1984		1985	
	# of Points	Sample Size	# of Points	Sample Size	# of Points	Sample Size	# of Points	Sample Size	# of Points	Sample Size
yearling	4.9	16	4.5	17	3.7	11	4.9	23	6.3	17
adults (2½+)	8.3	16	7.7	25	7.6	19	7.8	32	8.9	18

Table 16. Number and percentage of lactating does by age class WMU 93, 1981-1985.

Age	# of Does Examined					# of Does Lactating					% of Does Lactating				
	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
yearlings	3	6	15	13	5	1	3	4	6	2	33.3	50.0	26.7	46	40.0
adults (2½+)	14	12	18	21	6	13	7	11	18	3	92.8	58.3	61.1	85.7	50.0
Total	17	18	33	34	11	14	10	15	24	5	82.4	55.6	45.5	70.6	45.5



Ministry of
Natural
Resources
Ontario

APPENDIX I (1)

No 23910

FARMER/LANDOWNER AFFIDAVIT & APPLICATION FOR 1985 CONTROLLED DEER HUNT TAG

The following person(s) apply to hunt deer in Wildlife Management Unit:

HUNTER No. 1 Last Name 		First Name 	Initial 	3 CODE FOR OFFICE USE ONLY Landowner Tag Number <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>
Mailing Address (No. Street, R.R. or P.O. Box) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 250px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		Telephone <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		
City, Town or Village <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 250px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		Postal Code <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		
Proof of Hunting Experience* <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 250px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		Year <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 50px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		
Birthdate <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		For Month Day <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		

HUNTER No. 2 Last Name 		First Name 	Initial 	3 CODE FOR OFFICE USE ONLY Landowner Tag Number <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>
Mailing Address (No. Street, R.R. or P.O. Box) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 250px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		Telephone <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		
City, Town or Village <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 250px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		Postal Code <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		
Proof of Hunting Experience* <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 250px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		Year <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 50px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		
Birthdate <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		For Month Day <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; margin: 5px auto;"></div>		

*Proof of hunting experience means hunting licence and year issued OR Hunter Safety Certificate number and year issued.

I qualify for the above validation tag on the grounds that:

- ☐ My chief occupation is farming and I live upon and till land in W.M.U. _____
- ☐ I own a parcel of land of 50 acres (20 hectares) or more in W.M.U. _____
- ☐ I reside on and rent (lease) the same parcel of land of 50 acres (20 hectares) or more in W.M.U. _____
- ☐ I am the sole designated representative of the company, _____

which own(s) a parcel of land of 50 acres (20 hectares) or more in W.M.U. _____, and I am an officer (president, vice president, treasurer or secretary) of the company or one of the joint owners.

- ☐ I am the _____ of _____
(son, daughter or spouse)
 who resides on and rents/owns the same parcel of land of 50 acres (20 hectares) or more in W.M.U. _____; and I am the only member of the immediate family residing on the above property to apply for a farmer/landowner validation tag.

I declare that _____ is eligible for the farmer/landowner validation tag on the grounds that the above is my _____ and is the only member of the immediate family residing on the property applying for the farmer/landowner validation tag.
(son, daughter, spouse)

The property referred to in the above is described as Lot(s) _____, Concession _____
 Township _____, County _____, Acreage _____

I hereby certify that the above information is correct.

Signature: _____ DATE _____
(ONLY ONE APPLICANT)

Witnessed by: _____ DATE _____
(M.N.R. OFFICIAL)



APPLICATION FOR 1985 CONTROLLED DEER HUNT

FIRST CHOICE

SECOND CHOICE

The following person(s) apply to hunt deer in Wildlife Management Unit

HUNTER No. 1

Last Name

First Name

Initial

Mailing Address (No Street, R.R. or P.O. Box)

Telephone

City, Town or Village

Postal Code

Proof of Hunting Experience*

Year

Birthdate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

- ☐ 1 - Resident
☐ 2 - Non-resident
☐ 9 - Reject

HUNTER No. 2

Last Name

First Name

Initial

Mailing Address (No Street, R.R. or P.O. Box)

Telephone

City, Town or Village

Postal Code

Proof of Hunting Experience*

Year

Birthdate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

- ☐ 1 - Resident
☐ 2 - Non-resident
☐ 9 - Reject

HUNTER No. 3

Last Name

First Name

Initial

Mailing Address (No Street, R.R. or P.O. Box)

Telephone

City, Town or Village

Postal Code

Proof of Hunting Experience*

Year

Birthdate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

- ☐ 1 - Resident
☐ 2 - Non-resident
☐ 9 - Reject

HUNTER No. 4

Last Name

First Name

Initial

Mailing Address (No Street, R.R. or P.O. Box)

Telephone

City, Town or Village

Postal Code

Proof of Hunting Experience*

Year

Birthdate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

- ☐ 1 - Resident
☐ 2 - Non-resident
☐ 9 - Reject

I hereby certify that the above information is correct.

SIGNATURE (ONLY ONE APPLICANT)

DATE

*Proof of hunting experience means hunting licence number and year issued OR Hunter Safety Certificate number and year issued.
 Incomplete applications or applications that cannot be read will not be accepted.
 Duplicate applicants will be rejected.

- Return to District of first choice.
- Only applications received on or before August 30, 1985 will be accepted.



APPLICATION FOR 1985 CONTROLLED DEER HUNT

USE ONLY FOR
OCTOBER HUNT

FIRST
CHOICE
93B

SECOND CHOICE

--	--	--

The following person(s) apply to hunt deer in Wildlife Management Unit

HUNTER No. 1			FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Last Name	First Name	Initial	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 - Resident <input type="checkbox"/> 2 - Non-resident <input type="checkbox"/> 9 - Reject
<div></div>			
Mailing Address (No Street, R.R. or P.O. Box)	Telephone		
<div></div>			
City, Town or Village	Postal Code		
<div></div>		<div></div>	
Proof of Hunting Experience*	Year	Birthdate	
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	
HUNTER No. 2			FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Last Name	First Name	Initial	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 - Resident <input type="checkbox"/> 2 - Non-resident <input type="checkbox"/> 9 - Reject
<div></div>			
Mailing Address (No Street, R.R. or P.O. Box)	Telephone		
<div></div>			
City, Town or Village	Postal Code		
<div></div>		<div></div>	
Proof of Hunting Experience*	Year	Birthdate	
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	
HUNTER No. 3			FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Last Name	First Name	Initial	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 - Resident <input type="checkbox"/> 2 - Non-resident <input type="checkbox"/> 9 - Reject
<div></div>			
Mailing Address (No Street, R.R. or P.O. Box)	Telephone		
<div></div>			
City, Town or Village	Postal Code		
<div></div>		<div></div>	
Proof of Hunting Experience*	Year	Birthdate	
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	
HUNTER No. 4			FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Last Name	First Name	Initial	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 - Resident <input type="checkbox"/> 2 - Non-resident <input type="checkbox"/> 9 - Reject
<div></div>			
Mailing Address (No Street, R.R. or P.O. Box)	Telephone		
<div></div>			
City, Town or Village	Postal Code		
<div></div>		<div></div>	
Proof of Hunting Experience*	Year	Birthdate	
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	

I hereby certify that the above information is correct.

SIGNATURE (ONLY ONE APPLICANT)

DATE

*Proof of hunting experience means hunting licence number and year issued OR Hunter Safety Certificate number and year issued.
Incomplete applications or applications that cannot be read will not be accepted.
Duplicate applicants will be rejected.

- Return to District of first choice.
- Only applications received on or before August 30, 1985 will be accepted.

APPENDIX I (3)

Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Ontario

This authorizes

200925

19 _____ Controlled Deer Hunt
Validation Tag

to hunt antlered and antlerless deer in W.M.U. _____

1831 (84/05)



Dear Hunter:

You have been selected to participate in the Controlled Deer Hunt, November 4 to 7, 1985, in the Wildlife Management (W.M.U.) indicated on the accompanying validation tag. Please read the following carefully:

1. The Controlled Deer Hunt Validation Tag must be attached to a 1985 deer licence to be valid. The licence holder is entitled to hunt in the **wildlife management unit specified on the tag**. These units were indicated on the information sheet received with your controlled hunt application.
2. Permitted firearms: W.M.U. 60B — Shotguns only
W.M.U. 92A, B, C, D — Muzzle-loaders only;
W.M.U. 76A — shotguns, muzzle-loaders and rifles;
all other W.M.U.'s — shotguns and muzzle-loaders only.
3. No dogs are permitted in any controlled deer hunts.
4. All hunters who harvest a deer are requested to bring it to the nearest check station. These are indicated on the information sheet you obtained with your application, or call your District Office for direction.
5. THE ATTACHED MANDATORY REPORT MUST BE COMPLETED BY ALL PERSONS ISSUED VALIDATION TAGS AND RETURNED TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 21, 1985. FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL VOID ELIGIBILITY FOR CONTROLLED HUNT PARTICIPATION IN 1986.
6. Trespass will not be tolerated. Obtain Landowner's permission to hunt.
7. Party hunting for **antlered** deer is permitted. A hunter may shoot as many antlered deer as there are valid tags in his party.

Party hunting for **antlerless** deer is not permitted. A hunter may not tag another hunter's antlerless deer.

(DETACH HERE)



Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Ontario

1985 CONTROLLED DEER HUNT MANDATORY REPORT

TAG No. _____

W.M.U. No. _____

NAME: _____ PHONE No.: _____

ADDRESS: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

1. Did you hunt deer in the 1985 Controlled Deer Hunt?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If "NO", you have completed this report, please fold and return.

2. Please complete this calendar for yourself only. (Do not include any deer seen or hours hunted by others in your party.)

	MON. NOV. 4	TUES. NOV. 5	WED. NOV. 6	THURS. NOV. 7
Number of deer seen				
Number of hours hunted				

3. What type of firearm(s) did you use during the controlled hunt?

☐ Shotgun

☐ Muzzle-loader

☐ Rifle
(W.M.U. 76A only)

4. Did you use your seal to claim a deer?

☐ NO — please go on to question 5.

☐ YES — It was a:

- a) ☐ female fawn ☐ male fawn
☐ female adult ☐ male adult

b) In what township was that deer shot? _____

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--	--	--	--	--	--

c) On what day was the deer shot? Nov. , 1985

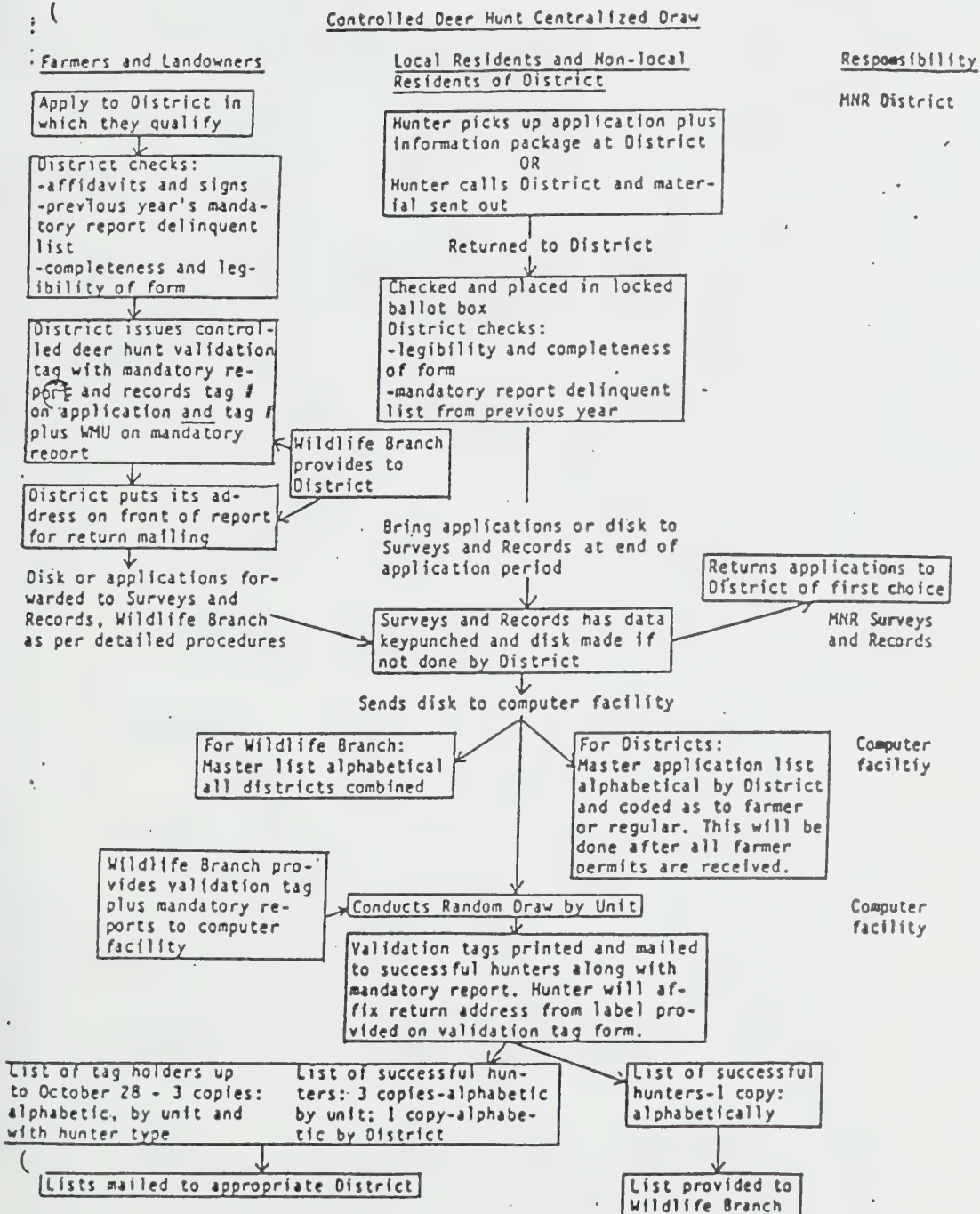
5. Comments: _____

IMPORTANT: Completion of this report is mandatory
(Game and Fish Act - O. Reg. 297/82)

RETURN BY: **NOVEMBER 21, 1985**

APPENDIX I (5)

Controlled deer hunt selection procedure, 1985





July 24, 1985

TWO HUNTS IN SOUTH KENT

HIGHLIGHT AREA DEER SEASON

Prospective hunters will get an earlier chance to shoot a deer this fall in a portion of southern Kent County. A second deer hunt will be introduced from October 7 to October 10 in addition to the regular shotgun and muzzle loader season scheduled this year from November 4 to November 7.

The area, designated as wildlife management unit 93B, includes that part of Kent County which lies south of highway 401 in Harwich, Howard and Orford townships.

Another hunting area, wildlife management unit 93A, includes all of Lambton County, the Kent County townships of Camden and Zone, and the portions of Orford and Howard townships in Kent that lie north of highway 401. In this management unit, the shotgun and muzzle loader season will be held from November 4 to November 7.

"The reason for adding a second, earlier hunt in south Kent is to help reduce the large number of deer in that area," explains Ministry of Natural Resources' wildlife management officer Fred Johnson.

"We're hoping that hunters can take more deer before the animals move into Rondeau Park for the winter and put additional pressure on the park's vegetation. More deer taken will also help to reduce crop damage in the area, which has been a concern to many farmers."

more....

APPENDIX II (1)DEER HUNT - 2

Farmers and rural landowners with at least 20.25 hectares (50 acres) of property in management units 93A and 93B are automatically eligible to participate in the hunts, provided they obtain a validation tag by applying at a Ministry office. Bonafide landowners and farmers may only hunt within the wildlife management unit in which their property is located.

Other individuals who wish to hunt in either of the units or in either of the hunts in unit 93B must submit an application form by August 30, 1985 for inclusion in a lottery draw which will be held in September. An applicant who is unsuccessful in the draw for the first hunt will be included in the draw for the second hunt upon request.

"Last year, 213 deer were taken in the two management units," adds Johnson. "This represented a 37% success rate which was the second highest for controlled deer hunts in Ontario."

For 1985, 136 tags are available for non-farmers and non-landowners in unit 93A. In unit 93B, 30 tags are available for the first hunt and 73 for the second hunt.

Archery hunting for deer, which is open in the Kent-Lambton area from October 21 to December 8, will be suspended for the November 4 to 7 shotgun season.

more....

APPENDIX II (1)DEER HUNT - 3

Applications for prospective hunters are available after August 1st from the Chatham and Petrolia offices of the Ministry of Natural Resources, although applicants for the first hunt in unit 93B must apply to the Chatham office. Those applying for the lottery draw positions, as well as qualifying farmers and landowners, are urged to submit their application or pick up their permit as early as possible.

- 30 -

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Fred Johnson
Fish and Wildlife Management Officer

or

Daryl Smith
Information Services Co-ordinator
Ministry of Natural Resources
Chatham District
435 Grand Avenue West
Chatham, Ontario
N7L 3Z4

(519) 354-7340 or 1-800-265-5233

APPENDIX II (2a)

Chatham District
 CONTROLLED DEER HUNT - WMU 93A
 November 4th to November 7th, 1985

WMU93A includes all of Lambton County, and Kent County townships of Camden and Zone, and north of highway 401 in the townships of Howard and Orford. Hunters will be allowed to hunt only if a validation sticker for WMU93A is attached their deer licence.

HOW TO OBTAIN A VALIDATION STICKERFARMER/LANDOWNER

Individuals in this category can qualify for a validation sticker for WMU93A by completing an application/affidavit at the Ministry of Natural Resources office in Chatham or Petrolia. These individuals must meet one of the conditions on the application/affidavit. There is no draw involved and no deadline date for completing the application/affidavit, but we encourage early application to avoid the rush.

ALL OTHERS

Anyone who does not qualify as a farmer/landowner in WMU93A must enter his name in a lottery-type draw for a validation sticker. A maximum of four (4) names can be entered on each application.

There will be 136 tags available for WMU93A.

Applications for this draw will be available from August 1 to August 30, 1985, at the Chatham and Petrolia offices of the Ministry of Natural Resources. The deadline for application submission to a Ministry of Natural Resources office is 5:00 p.m. Friday August 30, 1985.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS FOR THIS CONTROLLED DEER HUNT

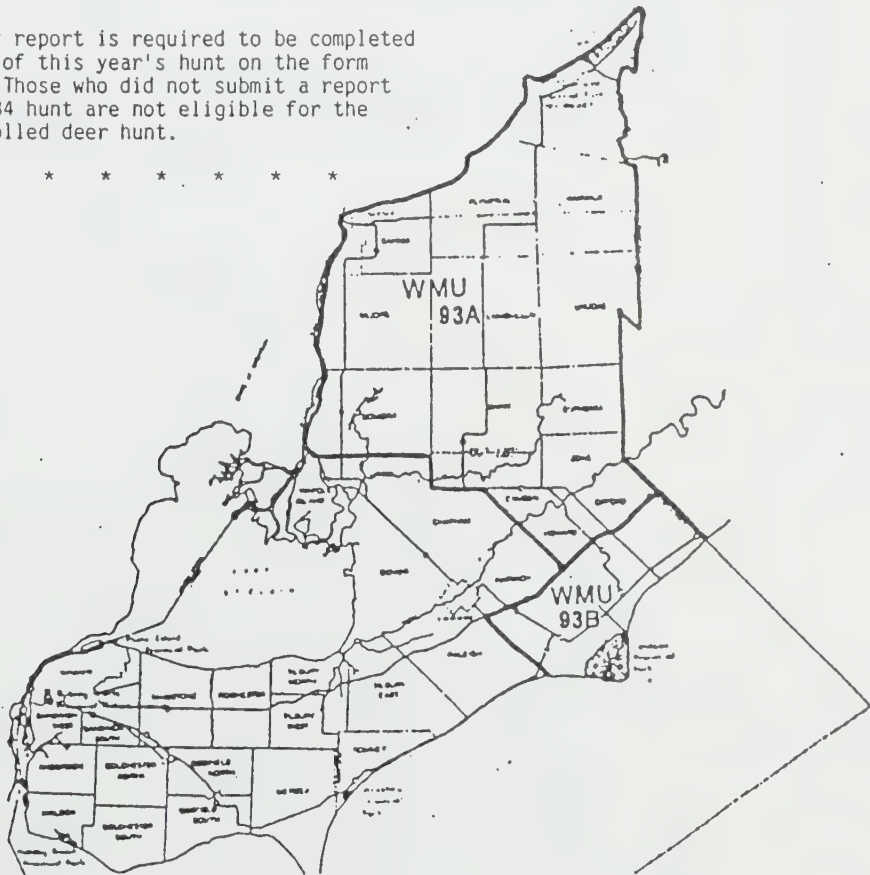
- ** Shotguns (not smaller than 20 gauge) and muzzle loaders only
- ** No dogs
- ** Open to Ontario residents only
- ** Landowner permission must be obtained prior to hunting
- ** Individuals hunting under the authority of a Farmer's Licence to Hunt Deer are reminded that the licence is valid only in the county in which you reside.

CHECK STATIONS

There will be a mobile check station available to inspect deer at the hunter's residence. If you have been a successful hunter, please call the Chatham office at 354-7340 or 1-800-265-5233.

NOTE: A mandatory report is required to be completed at the end of this year's hunt on the form provided. Those who did not submit a report for the 1984 hunt are not eligible for the 1985 controlled deer hunt.

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APPENDIX II (2b)CHATHAM DISTRICT
CONTROLLED DEER HUNT

WMU 93B

OCTOBER 7th - 10th, 1985

NOVEMBER 4th - 7th, 1985

WMU93B Includes the area south of Highway 401 in the townships of Harwich, Howard and Orford. Hunters will be allowed to hunt only if a validation sticker for WMU93B is attached to their deer licence.

HOW TO OBTAIN A VALIDATION STICKERFARMER/LANDOWNER

Individuals in this category can qualify for a validation sticker for WMU93B by completing an application/affidavit at the Ministry of Natural Resources office in Chatham. These individuals must meet one of the CONDITIONS on the application/affidavit.

Farmer/Landowners are eligible to participate in both the October and November hunts provided that the special dated validation sticker is attached to their licence to hunt deer.

There is no draw involved and no deadline date for completing the application/affidavit, but we encourage early application to avoid the rush.

ALL OTHERS

Anyone who does not qualify as a farmer/landowner in WMU93B must enter their name in a lottery-type draw for a validation sticker.

There will be 30 tags available for the hunt in October and 73 tags available for the hunt in November. Those individuals who apply for the October hunt in WMU93B and are not drawn will be entered into the November hunt draw provided they have indicated WMU93B as their second choice.

Successful applicants can only participate in the hunt for which they were drawn.

A maximum of four (4) names can be entered on each application.

Applications for this draw will be available from August 1 to August 30, 1985, at the Chatham and Petrolia offices of the Ministry of Natural Resources. The deadline for application submission to a Ministry of Natural Resources office is 5:00 p.m. Friday, August 30, 1985.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS FOR THIS CONTROLLED DEER HUNT

- *** Shotguns (not smaller than 20 gauge) and muzzle loaders only
- *** No dogs
- *** Open to Ontario residents only
- *** Landowner permission must be obtained prior to hunting
- *** Individuals hunting under the authority of a Farmer's Licence to Hunt Deer are reminded that the licence is valid only in the county in which you reside.

CHECK STATIONS

There will be a mobile check station available to inspect deer at the hunter's residence. If you are a successful hunter, please call the Chatham office at 354-7340 or 1-800-265-5233.

NOTE: A mandatory report is required to be completed on the form provided at the end of this year's hunt. Those who did not submit a report for the 1984 hunt are not eligible for the 1985 controlled deer hunt.





December 2, 1985

TO: Hunters in WMU 93A and/or WMU 93B
Chatham District

Dear Hunter:

You received a Controlled Deer Hunt Mandatory Report with your validation tag to hunt in the Chatham District's controlled hunt this year. On this report form and in other written communications, you were told that completion of the report is mandatory and that it must be returned to the Ministry of Natural Resources by November 21, 1985.

As of November 22nd, we had not received your completed Controlled Deer Hunt Mandatory Report. You are hereby notified that, according to Ontario regulations made under the authority of the Game and Fish Act, you are ineligible to receive a Controlled Deer Hunt Validation Tag in 1986.

If you have reason to believe that your report was submitted, you are advised to contact Fred Johnson at the Chatham District office, by registered mail, no later than December 18, 1985.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wendy McNab".

Wendy McNab
District Manager
Ministry of Natural Resources
Box 1168
Chatham, Ontario
N7M 5L8

telephone 519:354-7340

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